

## South-West *Build Wisconsin* Regional Workshop Small Group Record

Small Group Double Yellow\_\_\_\_\_ (color)

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### **Top 10 responses to the question: “What can the State do to foster economic growth in your region?”**

Priority response #1 (votes: 5 ) Build infrastructure (communication, transportation) into rural areas.

Priority response #2 (votes: 4 ) Accelerate tax credits for companies to locate in small and medium sized communities.

Priority response #3 (votes: 4 ) Implement a statewide, comprehensive land use plan.

Priority response #4 (votes: 4 ) Create an incentive program to reward unique partnerships where established companies assist/mentor developing companies.

Priority response #5 (votes: 3 ) Have University of Wisconsin System reinvent the way they look at agriculture research activity and the way they look at alternative agriculture practices, products, processes, and markets.

Priority response #6 (votes: 3 ) Have a state wide incubator program to transfer technology to local SW Wisconsin economy.

Priority response #7 (votes: 2 ) Develop programs for helping e-business start-ups, using state funded/developed infrastructure.

Priority response #8 (votes: 2 ) Reallocate resources from low interest loan to training programs.

Priority response #9 (votes: 2 ) Make better/more information available regarding economic development to region.

Priority response #10 (votes: 2 ) Increase entrepreneurial training program grades 9-16—college, tech schools, and high school.

## **“Actions Necessary to Achieve our Ideas” Exercise**

“If we want to accomplish this [priority issue #1], what does “the State” (as defined earlier) have to do now?”

### **Priority Issue #1 Build Infrastructure into rural areas.**

Responses to the question: “If we want to accomplish this [priority issue], what does “the State” (as defined earlier) have to do now?”

- \*Construction of a 4 lane highway from Middleton through Richland Center to LaCrosse and Dubuque.

- \*Use the TEACH grant model to extend telecommunications lines into rural communities and rural businesses. (Includes fiber optic and internet infrastructure.)

- \*Seek completion of high speed rail from Chicago to Twin Cities—Madison to LaCrosse.

- \*Install fiber optic lines when constructing/reconstructing highways.

- \*Survey present businesses for growth potential, asking “what if there is a 4 lane highway and high speed internet access in place?”

- \*Complete links/interlinks of bicycle trails.

- \*Improve funding formula so state will pick up more of the cost of extending airport runways.

### **Priority Issue #2 Implement a statewide comprehensive land use plan.**

Responses to the question: “If we want to accomplish this [priority issue], what does “the State” (as defined earlier) have to do now?”

- \*Continue emphasis on development of Smart Growth Plans.

- \*Provide monetary incentives for accelerated implementation.

- \*Allocate more resources for educating/informing people about benefits of land use planning.